

February 11, 2015

Andrew McAllister, Commissioner
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-31
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Review of the Implementation of the First Triennial EPIC Investment Plan

Dear Commissioner McAllister:

I am writing you in strong support of the California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC), University of California, Davis.

We have collaborated with CLTC on a number of occasions. Most recently, CLTC lighting experts have participated in several [national technical advisory groups](#) we have convened on behalf of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to scan, rate, research and score emerging but commercially available lighting technologies. Their input has been quite useful, having firm footings in both the research world and real-world implementation. Director Michael Siminovitch also made two presentations for us on adaptive lighting, with which CLTC has played a national role in documenting and communicating the success of this strategy. In addition to the strengths mentioned above, he in particular has a great charisma that is uniquely effective and engaging large audiences with clear and compelling presentations, which I have witnessed for over 20 years. Co-director Konstantinos Papamichael also participated actively in the [BPA national technology roadmap workshop](#) we helped convene for BPA that examined gaps in current lighting capabilities, technologies that may fill those gaps, and research questions that may lead to the development of those new technologies. While CLTC's focus is certainly on California, their collaboration with national gathering lighting experts helps to both bring research results and lessons learned back to California as well as to drive technology development on a national rather than state-wide basis.

While I understand that competitive solicitations are very effective in addressing discreet research needs, research centers such as CLTC are vital for moving forward the fundamental research, education, codes and standards in a consistent and effective manner. We strongly encourage this integrated approach. Their credible, unbiased outreach has developed great influence over the years, and to consider any major cuts to that powerful information resource would be a serious setback for the state.

Investing in CLTC and research centers that use a similar model presents the opportunity to effectively integrate and address long-term energy efficiency issues that cannot be obtained through individual project solicitations in different activity areas and at different times.

If CEC staff would like to discuss any of my comments above or would prefer to have this letter signed on letterhead, please contact me at (360) 956-2053 or penneyr@energy.wsu.edu.

Sincerely

Rob Penney, PE, Senior Energy Engineer
Washington State University Energy Program